



U.S. Congressman

Mark Steven Kirk

Proudly serving the people of the 10th District of Illinois

**** U.S. Congressman Mark Steven Kirk, Proudly Serving the People of the 10th District of Illinois ******Website - About Mark - Press Room - Constituent Services - Contact****Kirk In the News...**

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Dear Friends,

Last week, I introduced major bipartisan legislation to boost funding for schools in Glenview, Highland Park, Highwood and North Chicago.

Many kids in these school districts come from mothers or fathers who serve in our armed forces. Their homes are owned by the federal government and are not subject to local tax. The federal government helps with some education expenses by paying our local schools from the Department of Education's Impact Aid program. The Impact Aid program should increase its support for local schools, so I introduced two pieces of legislation to add federal dollars to our local classrooms.

Kirk-Obama-Durbin Impact Aid Compact Bill, H.R. 12

On the first day of the new Congress, I introduced H.R. 12, an education compact bill originally authored by the Mayors of Highland Park, Glenview and North Chicago. Our bipartisan bill -- introduced in the Senate by Senators Durbin and Obama -- would allow schools in North Chicago, Highland Park/Highwood and Glenview to enter into an agreement that will do two things: first, it will boost Impact Aid payments in Glenview and Highland Park/Highwood from \$600 per student to \$6,000. Second, the legislation will ensure that North Chicago schools will always maintain their "heavily impacted" status, guaranteeing \$7 million in federal aid to North Chicago schools. Last year, Senator Durbin managed to attach this legislation to a major appropriations bill. Hopefully, we will be even more successful in this Congress to boost aid to local schools.

GRADE-A, H.R. 701

While H.R. 12 would help the schools in this area, I also introduced bipartisan legislation, H.R. 701, the Government Reservation Accelerated Development for Education Act (GRADE-A), to fully fund the Impact Aid program for all schools in America. Backed by the National Education Association (NEA), two dozen Republicans and Democrats joined in supporting this bill to ensure the federal government's full funding for the education of military children attending local schools. The quickest way for the men and women in our armed forces to be distracted is to hear about problems with the children's school back home. By passing GRADE-A, the Congress can ensure full funding for all schools accepting military children. This is one of the best ways we can support Americans in uniform and their families.

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If you have further questions regarding education issues, Impact Aid or other issues of concern, feel free to contact my Northbrook office at (847) 940-0202 or visit my website <http://www.house.gov/kirk>.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Mark Kirk
Member of Congress

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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